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Of mentions in the book some may be cited. We are told on the authority of George Matcham, the brother-in-law, that it was the earnest wish of the admiral that "whatever boys of mine might live to be of age, they would adopt any profession other than that of arms, either as sailors or soldiers". Doubt is cast again upon the much-vexed question of the paternity of Horatia, Nelson's "adopted" child; and it is said that the admiral and his wife were so uncongenial, because of her temperament, that separation would have taken place had no Lady Hamilton appeared. This also rests upon the authority of the first George Matcham. "Lauded, admired, and sought everywhere but at home, where complaining and reproach formed a sad contrast to the merited reception he met elsewhere, he naturally turned from the spot, his heart sickened and revolted, and at last was completely estranged." Yet not long before he left England for the station where the entanglement began he wrote in a private letter, "I am possessed of all that is valuable in a wife". In 1800, when the infatuation was complete and Nelson not yet returned to England, his father, then an invalid of seventy-eight, wrote to Catherine Matcham, "I am weak and enervated, but the mind is strong; the body well taken care of by the best advice and best of care, by the unabated attention of your good sister-in-law, who is the very counterpart of her great and good husband". In later life the Matchams and Lady Nelson were reconciled.

Some of Matcham's utterances on other matters are of more general interest. "Many foreigners conceive we (English) are an uncleanly race from our not having a warm bath in every gentleman's house. Are they quite wrong in their conjecture? Clean linen alone will not make a person clean. . . . Yet we see houses built at the expense of tens of thousands of pounds without the consideration of spending a few pounds for a bath; a defect which excites the ridicule of foreigners and the regrets of travelled Englishmen. . . . The (present) frequent change of linen I think is owing to our greater intercourse with India." Again, "Smoaking tobacco is in England a forbidden indulgence."

There are several portraits, and other illustrations, which will possess interest for those already interested in the admiral.

A. T. MAHAN.

William Pitt and National Revival. By J. HOLLAND ROSE, Litt. D.
(London: G. Bell and Sons, Ltd. 1911. Pp. xii, 655.)

THIS scholarly work presents the results of a careful study of numerous original materials recently made available in addition to those used by Stanhope, 1862, since which no detailed biography of Pitt has appeared. Dr. Rose has used Foreign, War, Admiralty, and Home Office archives; the Pitt manuscripts now in the national archives, and those preserved in several private houses; the publications of the British Historical Manuscripts Commission; and many recent memoirs, in addition to the more familiar works. Parliamentary debates are used, though

not generously, the author depreciating their importance and asserting that they should not be taken seriously as revealing either motives or ideals, since members were but playing the political game and were frankly conscious of that incitement.

In the absence of any considerable number of letters for the period of Pitt's youth, Dr. Rose can offer little more than previous biographers. The failure to discover letters the author regards as a distinct misfortune, even hinting that Bishop Tomline, in his portrayal of Pitt as a statesman, may have destroyed correspondence. On the other hand it is admitted that Pitt either lacked or restrained certain kindly, human qualities, and that his friendships were few. Also he was persistently negligent in his correspondence, so that light on his personality is lacking. In the absence of any exact knowledge of his youth, the marvel of Pitt's precocity in politics and government still remains. The author's lucid account of the fortuitous political situation, the emphasis placed on inherited genius, and the prestige of the elder Pitt's name, do not destroy the wonder at the sudden emergence of the statesman. Dr. Rose aptly quotes Bacon: "A man that is young in yeares may be old in houres, if he have lost no time", and he also emphasizes Pitt's wonderful self-discipline. He was "essentially methodical. His feelings, his words, even his lightest jests, were always completely under control." But even this does not explain the marvel of his selection as prime minister. Probably George III., in his fierce displeasure with the Coalition, took a desperate chance, with no realization of Pitt's abilities. The king, the author states, exercised a greater control in government, and even over Pitt himself, than historians have stated. He was "a sovereign who in the last resort gave the law to his ministers, and occasionally treated them like head clerks". Yet Pitt, it is asserted, was supreme within the cabinet. In diplomacy "at every emergency the British Foreign Office was directed by Pitt, and not by its chief, the Duke of Leeds". Dr. Rose attributes to Pitt practically unlimited power over his fellow ministers, but declares that the obstinacy of George III. seriously hampered him in the exercise of it.

The present volume covers the ten years of English history from the beginning of Pitt's Parliamentary career in 1781. In the matter of Parliamentary reform Dr. Rose is largely an apologist for Pitt, enumerating his difficulties and emphasizing the apathy of the country. Pitt's earlier enthusiasm gradually waned under the necessity of maintaining a majority, and after motions for Parliamentary reform were defeated, he leaned on "influence". Dr. Rose regrets this, but viewing all the circumstances, ascribes no blame to Pitt for his disinclination to continue a hopeless conflict. The effort for abolition of the slave-trade was also abandoned after failure, the author clearly bringing out the intensity and bitterness of the mercantile opposition to the measure. Pitt, inspired by Wilberforce, for whom he felt a more tender friendship than for any other man, had espoused abolition with vigor, but after successive defeats in

Parliament, and in the stress of the conflict with France, was forced regretfully to withdraw from whole-hearted support. The irritation of the extreme abolitionists and their suspicions of Pitt's sincerity, the author considers unjust, pleading political exigencies and larger interests in extenuation. Dr. Rose's thoroughness is well exhibited in the treatment of the Nootka Sound affair, in the use both of recent monographs and articles, and of new material. With his modern vision of the importance of England's victory, comparing it to the "irruption of Cromwell's fleet into the Spanish West Indies in 1654", he possibly leaves an incorrect impression of Pitt's prescience, even though he admits Pitt's actual blindness.

The analysis of England's influence in the Triple Alliance is superior to anything that has yet appeared. Here Dr. Rose controverts in part the work of Sorel, of Lodge in the *Cambridge Modern History*, of Vivanti, and others. Particularly interesting is the credit given to Ewart, the British representative in Berlin, for formulating and pressing to organized effort the whole anti-Russian movement. Ewart has never had the credit due him in history, but the present work will do much to establish him in his proper niche in British diplomacy. The Triple Alliance greatly aided in the re-establishment of British prestige in Europe. In 1790 Pitt could point to industrial prosperity at home and influence abroad. "In seven years, crowded with complex questions, he had won his way to an eminence whence he could look down on his rivals, both internal and external, groping their way doubtfully and deviously." The summit of Pitt's career, according to the author, came in 1790, because of his successful efforts for peace. Faithful historical description "will reveal the truth, that a statesman attains a higher success when he averts war than when he wages a triumphant war".

Comparison with the author's *Napoleon I.* is inevitable. The older work is more attractive reading because of the greater dramatic interest of the subject-matter, but the *Pitt* unquestionably marks a great advance in Dr. Rose's scholarly breadth and presentation. If less popular than the *Napoleon I.*, the *Pitt* is more solid and authoritative, and shows a greater felicity of phrase and analysis. A second volume on *William Pitt and the Great War* will complete the work.

E. D. ADAMS.

Lettres de 1815. Lettres de 1812. Par ARTHUR CHUQUET, Membre de l'Institut. [Bibliothèque de la Révolution et de l'Empire, vols. I., II.] (Paris: Honoré Champion. 1911. Pp. 368; 413.)

M. CHUQUET announces his purpose in the collection which he initiates with these two volumes to publish personal letters and private documents emanating from secondary personages, subalterns, and minor officials, though not neglecting documents of a general or official character or letters and reports of high officials, military and civil. Occasionally translations of little-known documents, and brief notes and jottings will